

REMARKS

Applicant respectfully requests reconsideration of the present application in view of the foregoing amendments and in view of the reasons that follow.

Status of Claims:

No claims are currently being cancelled.

Claims 1 and 16-18 are currently being amended.

Claim 19 is currently being added.

This amendment and reply adds and amends claims in this application. A detailed listing of all claims that are, or were, in the application, irrespective of whether the claims remain under examination in the application, is presented, with an appropriate defined status identifier.

After adding and amending the claims as set forth above, claims 1-4 and 13-19 are now pending in this application for further examination on the merits, whereby claims 5-12 are withdrawn from consideration.

Claim Rejections – Written Description Requirement:

In the final Office Action, claims 17 and 18 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 112, 1st paragraph, as failing to comply with the written description requirement, for the reasons set forth on pages 2 and 3 of the final Office Action. Due to the amendments made to claims 17 and 18 (whereby the features recited in those claims, as amended, are clearly described in the drawings and the description of the drawings in the specification), this rejection has been overcome.

Claim Rejections – Prior Art:

In the final Office Action, claims 1-3 and 13-18 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over JP 2002-086854 to Nakamura in view of U.S. Patent No. 6,134,105 to Lueker, U.S. Patent No. 6,040,924 to Tamagaki et al., and U.S. Patent No. 5,117,505 to Talwar; and claim 4 was rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Nakamura and Lueker and further in view of U.S. Patent No. 6,069,587 to

Lynch. These rejections are traversed with respect to the presently pending claims under rejection, for at least the reasons given below.

Presently pending independent claim 1 now recites:

An image forming apparatus comprising:

a main body of the image forming apparatus;

a reversing automatic document feeder that is provided on an upper part of the main body of the image forming apparatus;

a wireless LAN module that is provided inside a rear surface of the main body of the image forming apparatus;

two antennas that are provided on the rear surface of the main body of the image forming apparatus;

an antenna for Bluetooth, which is disposed between the two antennas, with a first predetermined distance from a first of two antennas and a second predetermined distance from a second of the two antennas, and

a cable that connects the wireless LAN module and the two antennas with a shortest distance,

wherein the two antennas are disposed at positions where the first of the two antennas compensates for degradation in radiation characteristics of the second of the two antennas caused by the reversing automatic document feeder, and

wherein an uppermost part of the two antennas is provided at a position higher than a position that is lower by a third predetermined distance than an uppermost part of the reversing automatic document feeder.

In the present invention as recited in claim 1, an antenna for Bluetooth is disposed between the two antennas, with a first predetermined distance from a first of the two antennas and a second predetermined distance from a second of the two antennas. Such features are not taught or suggested by any of the cited art of record, alone or in combination.

New Claim:

New claim 19 has been added to recite additional features of the present invention that provide a separate basis of patentability for that claim, beyond the reasons given above for its base claim.

Conclusion:

Since all of the issues raised in the final Office Action have been addressed in this Amendment and Reply, Applicant believes that the present application is now in condition for allowance, and an early indication of allowance is respectfully requested.

The Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned by telephone if it is felt that a telephone interview would advance the prosecution of the present application.

The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any additional fees which may be required regarding this application under 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.16-1.17, or credit any overpayment, to Deposit Account No. 19-0741. Should no proper payment be enclosed herewith, as by a check being in the wrong amount, unsigned, post-dated, otherwise improper or informal or even entirely missing or a credit card payment form being unsigned, providing incorrect information resulting in a rejected credit card transaction, or even entirely missing, the Commissioner is authorized to charge the unpaid amount to Deposit Account No. 19-0741. If any extensions of time are needed for timely acceptance of papers submitted herewith, Applicant hereby petitions for such extension under 37 C.F.R. §1.136 and authorizes payment of any such extensions fees to Deposit Account No. 19-0741.

Respectfully submitted,

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